

Appl. No.: 09/991,883
Amdt. dated 02/09/2005
Reply to Office Action of November 12, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

21. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of selecting a facility for hosting a meeting, the method comprising:

receiving a range of dates, a list of potential attendees, and an originating location for each of the attendees;

calculating an all-inclusive cost, including at least costs associated with travel and lodging, for hosting the meeting at each of a plurality of potential meeting facilities based on specified range of dates and information associated with the specified list of potential attendees; and

ranking the plurality of potential meeting facilities based at least in part on the calculated all-inclusive cost for each of the plurality of potential meeting facilities,

wherein the plurality of meeting facilities are selected from a set of potential meeting facilities based on at least one of preference and a geographic location.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a network connection; and

a memory,

the memory including instructions that when executed by the processor perform selection of a facility for hosting a meeting by (1) receiving a range of dates, a list of potential attendees, and an originating location for each of the attendees, (2) calculating an all-inclusive cost, including at least costs associated with travel and lodging, for hosting the meeting at each of a plurality of potential meeting facilities based on specified range of dates and information associated with the specified list of potential attendees, and (3) ranking the plurality of potential meeting facilities based at least in part on the calculated all-inclusive cost for each of the plurality of potential meeting facilities, wherein the plurality of meeting facilities are selected from a set of potential meeting facilities based on at least one of preference and a geographic location.

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23. (Original) A method of evaluating a plurality of potential meeting facilities, the method comprising:

defining minimum requirements for a select meeting facility;
transmitting the minimum requirements to an application server; and
receiving a ranked list of meeting facilities, each facility being ranked based on all-inclusive cost-calculation corresponding to an estimated total cost of holding the meeting at the meeting facility,

wherein the meeting facilities included in the ranked list are selected from a set of potential meeting facilities based on at least one of a preference and a geographic location.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing instructions that when executed by a processor causes the processor to perform selection of a facility for hosting a meeting by:

receiving a range of dates, a list of potential attendees, and an originating location for each of the attendees;

calculating an all-inclusive cost, including at least costs associated with travel and lodging, for hosting the meeting at each of a plurality of potential meeting facilities based on specified range of dates and information associated with the specified list of potential attendees; and

ranking the plurality of potential meeting facilities based at least in part on the calculated all-inclusive cost for each of the plurality of potential meeting facilities,

wherein the plurality of meeting facilities are selected from a set of potential meeting facilities based on at least one of preference and a geographic location.

25. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium containing instructions that when executed by a processor causes the processor to evaluate a plurality of potential meeting facilities by:

receiving minimum requirements for a select meeting facility;

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transmitting the minimum requirements to an application server; and
receiving a ranked list of meeting facilities, each facility being ranked based on all-inclusive cost-calculation corresponding to an estimated total cost of holding the meeting at the meeting facility,

wherein the meeting facilities included in the ranked list are selected from a set of potential meeting facilities based on at least one of a preference and a geographic location.

26. (Previously Presented) A computer system comprising:
a processor;
a network connection; and
a memory, the memory including instructions that when executed by the processor evaluate a plurality of potential meeting facilities by:
receiving minimum requirements for a select meeting facility;
transmitting the minimum requirements to an application server; and
receiving a ranked list of meeting facilities, each facility being ranked based on all-inclusive cost-calculation corresponding to an estimated total cost of holding the meeting at the meeting facility,

wherein the meeting facilities included in the ranked list are selected from a set of potential meeting facilities based on at least one of a preference and a geographic location.

27. (New) The method according to Claim 21, wherein the all-inclusive meeting cost further comprises at least one of total meal cost and meeting space cost.

28. (New) The system according to Claim 22, wherein the all-inclusive meeting cost further comprises at least one of total meal cost and meeting space cost.

29. (New) The computer readable medium according to Claim 24, wherein the all-inclusive meeting cost further comprises at least one of total meal cost and meeting space cost.

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30 (New) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the minimum requirements comprise amenities of the meeting facilities.

31. (New) The computer readable medium according to Claim 25, wherein the minimum requirements comprise amenities of the meeting facilities.

32. (New) The system according to Claim 26, wherein the minimum requirements comprise amenities of the meeting facilities.

33. (New) The method according to Claim 21, wherein calculating the all-inclusive cost comprises calculating optimized costs and summing the calculated optimized costs.

34. (New) The method according to Claim 33, wherein calculating the optimized costs comprises calculating at least one of lowest costs for transportation, alternative dates, and travel.

35. (New) The system according to Claim 22, wherein calculating the all-inclusive cost comprises calculating optimized costs and summing the calculated optimized costs.

36. (New) The system according to Claim 35, wherein calculating the optimized costs comprises calculating at least one of lowest costs for transportation, alternative dates, and travel.

37. (New) The computer readable medium according to Claim 24, wherein the instructions for calculating the all-inclusive cost comprises instructions for calculating optimized costs and summing the calculated optimized costs.

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38. (New) The computer readable medium according to Claim 37, wherein the instructions for calculating the optimized costs comprises instructions for calculating at least one of lowest costs for transportation, alternative dates, and travel.